

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Original) A high-pressure processing apparatus comprising:

a processing vessel including a processing chamber formed therein;

a support member which supports an object loaded in the processing chamber thereon;

fluid feeding/discharging means which feeds and discharges a high-pressure fluid in and out of the processing chamber;

a communicating channel which is formed in the processing vessel to communicate with the processing chamber;

a valve structural member which is operatively supported to the processing vessel in the communicating channel to openably close the communicating channel; and

a piping member which is communicated and connected to the communicating channel for feeding and/or discharging a corrosive fluid in and out of the processing chamber, the corrosive fluid being different from the high-pressure fluid.

Claim 9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the piping member is so constructed as to be usable under an atmospheric pressure.

Claim 10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the fluid feeding means includes a fluid feeding channel which is formed in the processing vessel to communicate with the processing chamber, a valve structural member which is operatively

supported to the processing vessel in the fluid feeding channel to openably close the fluid feeding channel, and a piping member which is communicated and connected to the fluid feeding channel to feed and/or discharge the high-pressure fluid in and out of the processing vessel.

Claim 11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a fluid feeding hole which is formed in the valve structural member to feed the high-pressure fluid into the processing chamber.

Claim 12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the processing chamber includes a reservoir section which temporarily stores a corrosive fluid therein to feed the corrosive fluid onto the object, the fluid feeding means is so constructed as to feed the high-pressure fluid into the reservoir section.

Claim 13. (Original) A high-pressure processing method comprising the steps of:
feeding a corrosive fluid into a processing chamber of a pressure vessel;
washing an object supportively loaded in the processing chamber with the corrosive fluid under an atmospheric pressure;
discharging the corrosive fluid out of the processing chamber; and
feeding a high-pressure fluid into the processing chamber to dry the object.

Claim 14. (Original) A high-pressure processing method comprising the steps of:
feeding a corrosive fluid into a processing chamber of a pressure vessel;
applying a developer onto an object supportively loaded in the processing chamber under an atmospheric pressure for development;

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discharging the corrosive fluid out of the processing chamber; and
feeding a high-pressure fluid into the processing chamber to wash and dry the
object.